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Approved For Release 2003/03/28 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003300400007-9

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT : Comments on Draft Outline Plan for Psycho-
logical Exploitation of Stalin's Death

1. Subject plan will be considered as item 1 of the agenda
for the informal meeting of the PSB to be held 19 March 1953.
The following are staff comments thereon:

a. It is suggested that the following assumptions be
added to those already listed on page 3 of the plan:

(1) It is assumed that the new Soviet leadership is
acting within the framework of a comprehensive plan designed
to assure the orderly transfer of power after Stalin's death.

(2) It is assumed that within the framework of such a
plan, the new Soviet regime will initiate a series of
provocative military, diplomatic, psychological and economic
warfare measures, short of starting a general war, designed
to throw off balance Western efforts to interfere with or
impede the consolidation of the regime's power.

(3) It is assumed that the new Soviet regime will under-
take specific measures designed to test the reaction of the
West to the new regime. These measures will be aimed at
exacerbating the disunity of the West and preventing the
formation of a united Western effort against the new Soviet
leadership.

(4) Finally, it is assumed that the new Soviet regime
will make tactical peace overtures to the West for the
purpose of exploiting the neutralist sentiment in many
countries and gaining the time required for consolidation
of its rule.

b. It is suggested that the following aims be added to
version B on page 6 of the plan:

(1) To resist and unmask vigorously any new false
peace campaign.

(2) To combat wishful thinking in the free world as
to the weakness of Communism.

(3) To react resolutely to any new aggression.

c. On page 11, l.b.,

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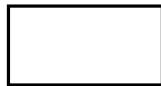
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20 Mar 53

This paper was delivered to DCI at P-539 meeting after discussion
with Mr. Buller therefore all contents contained herein
without regard

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c. On page 11, l.b., there is the statement that "the major hope of fulfilling the aims of this plan lies in substantive Government acts of psychological significance." However, there is little in the paper beyond the proposed speech of the President that defines the specific action which will have psychological significance. CIA feels that its covert activities should be developed in support of a national plan involving broad military, economic and political decisions.



FRANK G. WISNER
Deputy Director (Plans)

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